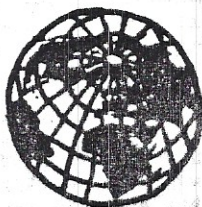


AIRSPEC NEWS

Airsounds, Spectrum & FRS News



Stuart Hardy, 36 Nottingham Rd., Lowdham, Notts NG14 7AP, England.

Raids [& otherwise]

With more raids and site disturbances occurring over the last few months, the SW scene is looking pretty bad at the moment. Below we list a complete "catalogue" of occurrences at various sites during January and the first half of February. Some of them are probably nothing more than members of the general public finding transmitters, but with them all happening within such sort time of each other, we're printing them, just in case...

Free Radio Service Holland were raided after programming had ended on January 16. They had been broadcasting regularly on 7315 with a strong signal, and had built up a considerable listenership, especially in the country of Germany. In fact, it was the German RCD working in co-operation with the Dutch PTT, who raided the station. FRS-H apparently had more regular "active" listeners (ie. the ones who write in every month) in that country than anywhere else. The reason given for the raid was that FRS has been jamming a nearby aircraft channel. However, I support FRS in their belief that this is impossible. For a start, they had been broadcasting on the same frequency (almost) regularly for a long while, and had never been raided before. Also, think of all the big international broadcasters, using hundreds of times that amount of power (10W), spluttering all over the same frequency and operating just as illegally... but then, the PTT wouldn't dare raid them, for fear of causing an international scandal in the broadcasting world! The FRS' total losses were two 10W rigs (one of which was in the car, and had not been used), two aerials, two car batteries, two C-120 tapes, an auto reverse cassette recorder and crystals for 6250, 7315, 7310, 7325 and 6260. This was only the equipment on site! From Peter's house they also took two 40W rigs (usually stored somewhere else) and five invertors! No studio equipment was taken due to Peter's co-operation. The station will now depend on relays. They hope to keep their normal sked, and be on on the 3rd Sunday if possible. They will have at least one transmission every two months. The listeners club will continue, and a documentary on cassette is being prepared. Some people just never give up...

Britain Radio's transmitter was switched off at 1020 on January 23. Who did this, it is unknown. The most likely explanation is that a passing gamekeeper disconnected it, but to me, the thought of touching some of these transmitters if I hadn't got any technical knowledge would put me off. As BRI were not operating in the "forbidden zone", this could have been the GPO "warning" them, but this is unlikely.

Radio Avalanche - East Midlands Free Radio Service despite transmitter problems on February 14, RAI's broadcasts via EMFRS still got out well enough for the GPO to hear them. At approx 1040, a blue transit van with mirrored windows and lots of aerials was seen around the site, and another smaller brown van was also reported. The transmitter was switched off quickly, and the GPO eventually went away.

Radio Apollo parked his car, set the equipment up, and then had to go back to his house for a tape he had forgotten, on February 6. When he returned to his parking place he found it had been taken up by a car containing two men and an alsatian. Not long after this, these two men (and alsatian) appeared at the transmitter site, and found the transmitter. When they saw Dave looking at them, they left. Coincidence...?

No. 1 in the U.K.!

Once again, here we are with ASN - doesn't time fly? Judging by the comments we've received, everyone seems to like the new mag, despite last month's grotty printing (some people told us it was excellent, but these are ex-FRS News readers who haven't seen what our copier can do). As we haven't received as many complaints about the printing as we thought we would, I won't explain it too you, but just apologise if your copy was a bit black! A special apology to all subscribers receiving the mag by the Airmail Printed Papers Rate - you have two issues in with this month's, as we ran out of copies towards the end (and getting just seven done would make them three times more expensive) - your subs have been adjusted to make up for this. We can't send you a personal letter due to the GPO regulations.

Orders for the station themes tape are coming in thick and fast, but I'd like to ask people not to make cheques payable to me - Steve is doing this, and he wants blank cheques. The only cheques which should be payable to me are for orders for the magazine.

The mag still costs 10p plus s&e in the UK, 10p plus IRC in Eire, 2 IRCs in Europe and 3 IRCs elsewhere. New sub prices are £2.70 for the UK, £2.90 in Europe and £3.90 elsewhere. Acceptable methods of payment - British cheque, British postal order, English/Scottish pound notes, Irish postal orders, foreign currency (bank notes only please, and add 10% for currency fluctuations) and Eurocheques.

ASN has approx 200 readers per month, yet we only hear from about 30 a month. I appreciate that many of you have other commitments, but it would really make my day if a few more letters arrived here every month... ASN is the only remaining hobby Free Radio magazine left in the UK.

Don't forget that we will accept adverts free of charge (though anyone who pays will find that theirs gets printed a bit more quickly!) - we can also provide you with a Box number at the mag, if you don't want your name disclosed. Other services ASN provides - mailing address for FR stations (write to SPECTRUM for more details), and mailing service (we post your letters for you, so the postmark won't give away your location). Write for more details. Also don't forget to keep votes for the ASN Free Radio Poll coming in - SW Top 10s to me, and MW and FM to Steve and Chris.

Please note the contribution deadline for next month. Publication of issue three may be delayed by a week, but we'll try and avoid this.

STUART HARDY
36 NOTTINGHAM ROAD
LOWDHAM
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
NG14 7AP
ENGLAND

WANTED: studio or good quality off-air recordings (whole shows if poss) of Radio Impact SW. Very good prices paid. Details to Les Monk, 35 Kingston Drive, Connah's Quay, Deeside, Clwyd, CH5 4TN.

WANTED: tapes of any Free Radio stations, March 1964 to present day. Will buy or send tapes for copying. Also, FR mags - especially A&S 1-5, FBM, FRJ, FRS News, BRI Newsletters before May 82. Box AS, ASN.

FOR SALE: FM transmitter, 5W, mono, for just £30 (p&p inc). Write for details to Mark Snow, 17 Glendevon Rd, Edinburgh, Scotland.

WANTED: good quality recordings of Radio Caroline North from 1964-67. Write to Box AP, ASN.

NOW AVAILABLE: AIRSPEC NEWS promotional tape! Send in blank tape to us and we'll get it copied off for you.

WANTED: anything by Blancmange, pre-"Happy Families". Will send cassette for copying, if possible. Box AE, ASN.

MAGAZINE NOTES: part two of "So you want to be a pirate?" will hopefully appear next month. It was sacrificed this month for the US review. The front page has been re-typed, for anyone noting the chronological "kink"!

Sorry for short delay - printing problems @ Feb 19

Short Wave

:: Voice of the Leek: Idris Evans and the crew will be back on the air within the next two months sometime. PO Box 319, Edenbridge, Kent.

:: Radio Dublin: about mid-Jan the Captain said that he was stopping the SW relay between 1800 and 2400 due to interference with TVs, but hoped to overcome these soon so the SW relay would be 24 hours a day. Then the SW tx was off altogether for about a week. Not sure if it is now on in the evenings as the signal is drowned out in the late afternoons by foreign stations and noise.

:: Westside Radio: claimed on January 30 that they had broadcast on 11463 around 0130 that morning with a tape of the previous Wednesday's Ch 2 Free Radio show. As there were no reception reports for 25m tests to North America last Nov, Prince Terry is considering testing 11463 at 0900 on Sundays with the FR show tape (also aired at about 1115 on 6280). Was Westside on on Feb 6? We're not sure if we heard a very weak signal or a foreign legal station! 53 Charleston Ave, Dublin, Eire.

:: Station 41: formerly UK Radio (Cheshire), S41 will be on soon. UKR made their last broadcast on 7340 on January 23. Unfortunately the signal was very weak, and the horrendous Radio Moscow was co-channel (as this happened to Radio Avalanche last time they were on, I'd recommend stations to stay of the freq unless they have a very good transmitter!!) S41's info sheet has already been prepared and printed and, if you can spare the expense of an sae, is worth a read. They use a custom-built tx (16-20W) into a half-wave dipole. The schedule has not been officially fixed yet, but will be 2nd and Bank Holiday Sundays, probably. Address your letters to 7 Chantry Ave, Hartford, Northwich, Cheshire, CW8 1LZ, but please don't put the station's name on the envelope.

:: Britain's Better Music Station: last heard testing on 7315 on Sat January 29, and before that, on January 9. The signal strength isn't too strong, but on the 29th, they had a very clear channel, so reception was OK. They also have an information sheet available. However, as to which address to use... on the 29th they announced 145 Fleet Street, London EC4, despite the fact that they had written to us asking for use of the SPECTRUM address. It's probably best to use the one they announced!

:: Radio Cosmos: Cosmos? Oh yes, the one with the weak signal but good programmes. Unfortunately they have been raided. See front cover. Postbus 354, Drachten, Netherlands is the address.

:: East Midlands Free Radio Service: after testing on 6265 on January 9, the EMFRS did a short mailbox/music programme on January 30 on the same frequency, but with a hum on the carrier. The signal here was very good (groundwave?!), and SINPOs are required from the rest of the country. Please send these c/o SPECTRUM, 32 Victoria Rd, Salisbury, Wilts, SP1 3NG.

:: Radio Atlantis: apparently, mail for the addressless Dutch Atlantis has been pouring in to Radio Atlantis SW, a totally different station. So please, if you haven't already written, don't!

:: Hotel Amigo: another one guilty of carrier hum, HA tested 7350 on January 9. They re-appeared again on February 6 firstly on 7348 (with Titanic relay first), followed by a short CQ. They moved down to 7335 for a QSO with RHL, BUT, more info on that later! HA's address is Postbus 113, Damwoude, Netherlands.

:: Radio Titanic: have not closed down altogether, as we said last month, but they will probably not be using their own transmitters again. They were last heard on February 6 when they were relayed by the above. The signal was quite good (understatement of the year!), and I'm sure I've heard that DJ before... Postbus 41, 7700 AA Dedemsvaart, Netherlands.

:: Radio Milano 101: can be heard occasionally on 6220 when conditions are good. One of our more enterprising readers has also heard them on MW at night with non-stop music and 101 Radio jingles.

:: Radio Caroline Int: heard on 6243 (actually 6242.75, I'm informed!) with Steve Most on February 6. PO Box 1, Brandon, Suffolk.

:: Radio Lynda: yes, Lynda do reply to mail, but at the moment they are a bit behind as some letters went astray at the box. They replied with QSL card and info sheet. Lynda is totally separate from Woodstock, Luis N gave them technical help at the beginning, getting the tx done, etc. They did their first few broadcasts under the name Woodstock, but "in hindsight it was probably a mistake as everyone thought Woodstock had returned again." Radio Lynda do take some information from ASN for their DX programme, but if anyone wants to send any more, you know the address... PO Box 16, Falkirk.

:: FRS Holland: raided - see front page! Postbus 41, 7700 AA Dedemsvaart, Netherlands.

:: Radio Freedom Scotland: reply to all letters with QSL card (very good QSL card as well!), information sheet and personal letter. Their transmitter is capable of 150W, usually putting out around 60. However, if this seems a little high, their aerial is not very efficient, so they probably lose quite a bit of what they gain. They play mainly oldies and revive 45's ("nothing new, you might think? But you may as well enjoy the music if you're going to get nicked for it!"). As the broadcasts are every week, new ideas for programming run out very quickly, so, bearing in mind their format, if you've got any suggestions ("another 25W lightbulb idea") then send them to RFI, 67 Elm Row, Edinburgh, EH7 4AQ, Scotland. They are now broadcasting every first and third Sunday.

:: Radio Mi Amigo: the Dutch one, heard on 6225 on January 16 with an English (genuine) and Dutch (genuine!) presenter! They were even heard giving a dedication to Podney! However, they seem to like confusing us humble listeners, as they've changed their address back to the old one of Postbus 627, Hengelo, Holland...

:: Radio Apollo: heard on January 16 - apollo-gising for lack of V8ice of the Leek, on the 23rd on 6243 as Apollo Ireland (QSL posters available, apparently), 30th on 7330 with Freedom and 7400 with a test tx (7330 was the 18W tx, 7400 was the new 28W one). Then, succeeding in being on once every week for a month, they appeared on 7330 on February 6 with "The Ireland tapes" - a collection of tapes made in Ireland, of interviews and cuts from Irish Free Radio stations - a very good prog, presented by Mike Davis. Apollo were having problems with their txs a few weeks back, but now seem to have sorted the 18W one out, if not the new one. Another ARN is going out soon (see last month's list). PO Box 319, Edenbridge, Kent.

:: Empire Radio: made one of their irregular broadcasts on 6200 on January 16. Unfortunately the signal was very weak, and mostly unlistenable at this location. There are still some A5 QSLs (same size as ASN) available from 190 Monument Rd, Edgbaston, Birmingham 16.

:: Weekend Music Radio: heard on 6260 on January 16 with an excellent signal! However, not much else to report, except listen out for them again soon (2nd Sun schedule, if I remember correctly)! 42 Arran Close, Cambridge, England.

:: Bulldog Radio: this is the other UK Radio, the Kent one, who have now changed their name. They tell me that they plan a fourth Sunday schedule, but that their next transmission is for Feb 13! As their last tx was also on a second Sunday, I think they may have mis-understood the "Xth Sun" term! It means the Xth Sunday of the month, not every X Sundays. Nevertheless, the old UK replied very promptly with a nice letter. They have all been involved in Free Radio before, but not SW; they use a 25W rig. They are also anxious to gain any information on SW Free Radio, so write to 65 Poplar Ave, Gravesend, Kent.

:: ABC Tramore: were to be heard on 6240 on January 23, with a relay of their MW programming. Reception reports sent to them should be addressed to Mike Cottee (SW service), ABC Radio, Tramore, Co Waterford, Eire.

:: County Radio: appeared on 7350 again on February 6 with their usual fair to weak signal. Their address is PO Box 319, Edenbridge, Kent, and this is the same station that operates on FM in Birmingham (see SPECTRUM for more news, hopefully!).

LATE: Kristel SW/Southern MW 58 Aldesbrook Rd, London E12 5DY. New QTH.

:: Britain Radio: see front cover. SPECTRUM address.

:: Radio Delta: from the Netherlands were heard with a massive 1KW tx on 7290 on January 23. Their address is Postbus 41, Elburg, Netherlands.

:: Bondage Radio: Britain's first and only all-punk SW station hopes to begin broadcasts soon on 7375kHz with a 50W transmitter. The address hasn't yet been finalised, but will probably be c/o SPECTRUM, as a local one investigated doesn't seem to be much good. Info sheets are being prepared.

:: Radio Daytona: were heard again on 6274 on January 23! They are using Radio Nolan's old 48m tx! The address for stickers and QSL card is RDI, Postbus 10, Vlagtwedde, Netherlands.

:: Radio Hexagon: back again with new DJ Richard Urahm on January 30, on 6243kHz. Hexagon now have new ultra-flash QSLs available, after some temporary ones done last month. These can be obtained from 32 Victoria Rd, Salisbury, Wilts, SP1 3NG.

:: Radio Europa: unfortunately, although we constantly say how good this station are, we can never bring you good news about the signal. The station returned under the Europa name (see a bit later for what I mean by that) on January 30 on 6291 and 6300 (6291 10-11, 6300 11-12, but not heard). A phone number announced received its first call at 1040 (me!), showing you just how bad the signal really was. A new aerial system was being used that day, and a new valve as well..In the future, Europa are considering being relayed by other stations. A two page information sheet is available from PO Box 319, Edenbridge, Kent. "Broadcasting from Europe, to Europe, across Europe - Europa!"

:: Radio Freedom NZ: heard on 7330 on January 30 (Apollo), and possibly on 7348 on Feb 6? The sign off was heard anyway, and Hotel Amigo was the only station using this freq on this date...? PO Box 1437, Hastings, New Zealand.

:: Radio Holland: has returned! They were heard on January 30 with Tom de Wit (KBC) announcing KBC's address, and the following week with their old DJ, Gerrit, on 7335, announcing their old address - Postbus 201, 9100 AE Dordrecht, Netherlands. They used to have info sheets and badges available.

:: East Coast Commercial Radio: made their first broadcast after their raid on 6280kHz via Westside Radio on January 23 are 30. PO Box 319, Edenbridge, Kent will reach them. They will not be back on the air till after their court case.

:: Radio Stella: tried to broadcast on 7320 on February 6, but this was rather unsuccessful, with a very weak signal. However, for anyone who did hear it, new QSL cards are available (printed, not Jock Wilson's old "da Vinci" style hand-drawn ones!), and information sheets seem to be printed fairly regularly - all in all I would call Stella a station worth listening to, but unfortunately, the signal seems to have let them down. 17 Glendevon Rd, Edinburgh, Scotland is the address.

:: KLA Radio: now here, we do have a good station! Although I've only heard them three times, the signal strength has always been reasonable to good, and the programming isn't bad. They tested on 6317 on February 6, with "reduced power" (still very strong here), but they say they will be back with full power in the near future. An information sheet/QSL is available from 35 Fair Oak Rd, Chessington, Surrey.

:: Radio Intrepid: broadcast on December 18 on 6300 between 1030 and 1230, as a test for Europa using the new aerial. Unfortunately, no reports were received, so if you heard it, drop them a line. The broadcast ended with all the DJs and studio equipment being covered with spray-on snow, and Manfred is still trying to get it off the controls!!!

:: Radio Avalanche: plans to be on air on February 13, just after our printing deadline (if SPECTRUM makes it here!). They hope to be on in the 48mb for an hour, and reports should go to the SPECTRUM address. They have stickers, QSL cards and info sheets available.

:: Radio Albatross: the SW service of the London station may appear sometime this summer, but nothing is definite. SPECTRUM address.

:: Radio Northern Hemisphere: was a joint broadcast between Radio Apollo and Radio Confusion (Norway) on 7320, January 16. It consisted of Dave S and Jonathan, trying to persuade everyone that Norwegian Rock music is a good thing! 8 Prior Close, Wistaston, Crewe, Cheshire is the address.

:: Sunrise Radio: have a penfriend service available. Box 41, Dedemsvaart, NL.

USA latest

Scott McClellan

"Radio Clandestine has been heard near 7355kHz fairly often around 0200 to 0600 GMT, sporadic. Heard celebrating their 10th anniversary this year with special programming. Address A. Strong and excellent audio. Also will show up occasionally inside the 49, 31, 25 and 19 metre bands, Radio Confusion (address A) is planning a return, but no specific info yet. Hopes to have more power and hi-fi audio. KQSB are, at time of writing, off with transmitter problems, but hope to return by May at the latest, when they'll have their first anniversary programme, and possibly a new 100W transmitter. Address B. Munchkin Radio is a fairly new station with unusual but interesting programmes. Usually is near 7430 but reportedly plans to use other 41m frequencies. Address A. WOIS is still active on 41m with 50W, usually around 7430 or 7390. I'll try to persuade him to test to Europe around 20m this spring or summer. Address A. KCFR, also known as California Free Radio, is sporadic on 6856 or so, around 0700-1000 and beyond. Sometimes uses parallel 41m channel. The 6856 transmitter is 250W, and they use address B. WTDF, another new one, has been heard on 7425 kHz around 0100-0600 with poor audio and unimaginative programmes. Runs less than 50W, address C. The Crystal Ship are currently having their transmitter rebuilt so it will stop sounding like an FM signal and stop drifting up and down the dial. Named after a song by the Doors. Appears around 7430 after 0300. Address C. Radio North Star continues on 13787, five or take a few kHz, usually after 0800 but has recently shown at other times, such as 1600. Super audio quality and potent signal. Address A. Radio Arrowhead plans to broadcast on 6990 after 0300 but is not yet on the air. Address A. Radio Free Radio, the SSB station on 7425, claimed that their December 28 broadcast would be their final one, but has been reported back on already! Usually on at 0600 or later. Address C. The Voice of Syncom hasn't been on for a while, but they are still alive! Broadcasts on 48 and 41m should occur within a few months, after 0300 to as late as 0800. Address A. Radio Free Wave appeared again over the holiday season with broadcasts on 7425-7430 around 0400-0600. Power is 50W from "the great north-east". No address! Voice of the Pyramids is still active on 48 and 19 metres, mostly near 6280 and 15035kHz. Uses the former after 0500 and the latter around 2000. Power is 100W. Address A. Radio Indiana continues on 41m (especially 7425) and also has begun using 6280. Usually after 0300. Address A. Free Radio North America were raided by the FCC on December 12 1982 and were fined \$750. The station is off forever. Voice of the purple Pumpkin was active in Oct and Nov on 7410, after 0400. No known address, but good audio and very professional sounding. Harmonics of 1620kHz area stations have been appearing in the 90mb, especially on 3240kHz, allowing reception much further than normal. Also, word just received on a new station called the Voice of Revolution, Radio Free Radio (not to be confused with the other RFR!) shows they've been testing on 3495kHz after 0200 GMT claiming 135W. They were announcing address A, but I don't know who they are!!! That just about covers all recent activity.

"The usual times for US stations to be on is GMT Sundays, between roughly 0200 and 0800 on 41, and to a lesser extent, 48m. Some stations also use frequencies outside these bands. There is also some activity on GMT Saturdays, but not as much as Sundays. On occasion some stations will turn up on other days, usually to find that no one hears them! With some stations, the power isn't known, but it's nearly always between 20 and 200W, with 100 being the average."

Address A: Box 982, Battle Creek, MI 49016, USA
Address B: Box 4948, Arcata, CA 95521, USA
Address C: Box 452, Moorhead, MN 56560, USA

SM/ASN

ADVERT: Photographs of the new Radio Caroline ship, in Spain, photos of ex-offshore DJs now working on stations in Ireland, all colour and recent. Loop aeriels made, and diagrams of how to make one yourself. Irish Free Radio station lists including addresses and phone numbers, and MUCH MORE! Send sae to 1 IRC to Anoraks UK, PO Box 539, Blackpool, UK!

or

Hello again, and welcome to the QSO "bit" (sic SH) in ASN. Due to various problems (mainly the fact that I haven't got all the info yet), the promised article about frequencies will appear next month. This time, we've done a sort of beginners guide to QSO, for all those who don't know what it's all about.

A guide to QSO

So what are the QSO stations? Well, they are basically two-way transmissions between individuals who are interested in radio as a hobby. The term can cover everything from Hams to Cbers, but in ASN we use the term to refer to unlicensed stations. They can broadly be divided into two groups: (1) - Certain members of FR stations that use the transmitter after the broadcasts have finished, to talk to members of other stations. These occur mainly in the 48mb (mostly English and Irish), and sometimes in the 41mb (usually Dutch and German). The stations appear irregularly, but the best time to listen is 1030-1200 in the 41mb, and after 1300 in the 48mb. Some QSOs can last all afternoon (it's cheaper than using the phone, unless you're caught!). Most use the station's mailing address, and some even issue special QSL cards!

WMRI - Jack Russel, Weekend Music Radio, 42 Arran Close, Cambridge.
RC1 - Phil Collins, Radio Cavendish, 224 Sevenoaks Rd, Eastbourne, Sussex.
KT66 - Phil Honey, Radio Stoke Poges, 88 Queensway, Manningtree, Essex (don't put the station's name on the envelope for this one).
Abbey Radio - Phil Abbot, Radio Avalanche, 32 Victoria Rd, Salisbury, Wilts.
EC1 - Prince Terry, Westside Radio, 53 Charleston Rd, Dublin 6, Eire.
CSR1 - Paul Rowlands, Castle Sound, 32 Victoria Rd, Salisbury, Wilts.
Other stations such as Radio Bluebird, Zender Internationaal appear irreg.
(2) - The second group are those who operate AM stations in the Echo Charlie band (6600-6670kHz approx). Most build their own transmitters, and their interest is the technical side of radio, some being the engineers or operators of other FR stations. Listen out for these stations mainly on Sunday mornings and afternoons.
(3) - The last main group of QSO stations that can be heard are the SSB stations. They also operate on Echo Charlie and most use commercially produced amateur-type transmitters. There are many of these stations, worldwide, most being CB ops who have become bored with 27MHz. They can be heard almost every day of the week.

48m stations heard since issue 1
Westside Radio, WMRI, Japan 5.
41m stations heard since issue 1
Radio Holland, Hotel Amigo
AM stations heard on Echo Charlie
TRG, WS19, Alpha 2, Japan 5, FRL4
SSB stations on Echo Charlie
ATB59, BW59, GC7, IB41, PA33, SW5,
SL21, UL01, W17, 2RN, ERL (Norway),
ONL75 (Belgium), BL1 (Antwerp)

If you listen to the QSO stations it's well worth it. Technical points are discussed (especially on AM) and other interesting pieces of FR info can be obtained (eg some stations exchange logs). However, raids do occur, especially with the SSB ones, some of which occasionally cause QRM to legal services.

Your letters and logs are very welcome - these should be sent to me

KL/ASN

c/o 36 Nottingham Road where they will be passed on.

FOR SALE: a pair of GEC Search Two walkie-talkies - perfect working order and excellent condition. Morse capability, telephony with "push-to-talk" transmit. Compact with rugged case. Value for learning morse, site security on Free Radio stations or just for fun! 49MHz. Must be sold soon - send offers around £8-10 (or less) to Box WT, ASN.

FOR SALE: good quality recordings of "Pirate Radio - Three years before the mast" - by Downtown Radio. Tapes contain many jingles, recordings and interviews, telling the complete history of offshore broadcasting. Send £2.50 (p&p inc) for recording on good quality tape. May be a short delay due to tape-to-tape recording. Write to "Offshore tape offer", ASN.

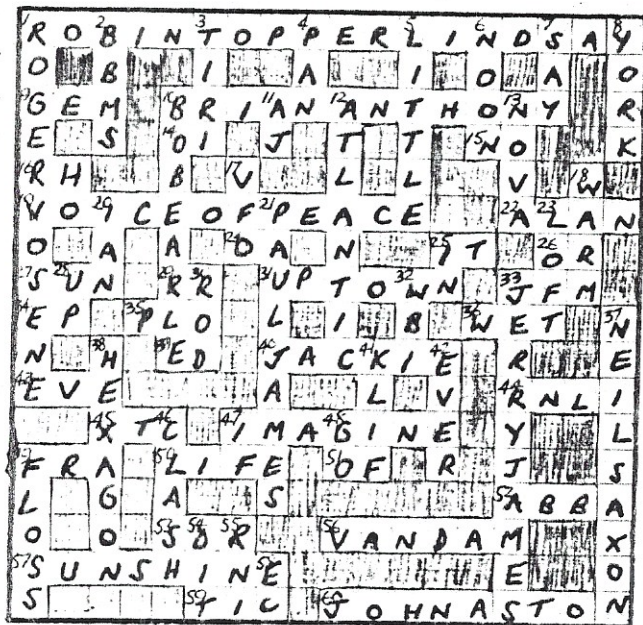
FOR SALE: electronic components, new, used, switches, wire, resistors, circuit board, leds, small motors, ICs, etc. At least 250 items for £3 (P&P inc - hurry while stocks last - write to Elektrix, c/o ASN.

Oh no, in the
Answer News
Crossword 16

Courtesy of SH "Cheap looking Lays" Ltd...

Yes indeed! Here are the much-awaited answers to last month's crossword! Hopefully everything will be readable. We warned you it would be hard, but we didn't expect reports from readers who could only get eight clues!!! Admittedly there is a lot of offshore and London based info in there, but even so...

Anyway, Graham Morris has been locked in a padded cell and been forced to listen to a tape loop of the ASN promo for a few weeks. That should lower his mentality slightly....



THE ENDENDENDENDENDENDENDENDENDENDENDENDENDENDENDENDENDEND SECTION

This is the End Section with a difference! This is the End Section where I am happy to report that due to the usual combination of the GPO and Steve West's pub crawls, ASN is a few days late... again! We're just hoping that this extra five days doesn't mean as much to you as it does to us. Now, a bit of late SW news from February 13:

:: Radio M1 Amigo: heard again on 6225 with Steve Most, of all people.

:: Radio Avalanche: did, indeed appear, but with severe transmitter faults (smoke started pouring out of the transmitter towards the end!), and hassle from the GPO! They were being relayed by the EMFRA, who hope to put the shows out next weekend.

:: Radio Cosmos: heard on 7290 explaining their recent raid.

:: Hotel Amigo and :: BEBS were also heard on 41m, 7348 and 7320 respectively.

:: RADIO ENOCH!!! Back after a long absence!!! Usual political style programming, anti-Marxist, and stirring patriotic music! Unfortunately, the signal never matched any of their previous broadcasts. No address, but they will be back on March 6! Tune in on 7340.

No offshore news this month, only a short mention from Radio Freedom that Radio Europa will be on at the end of this month. Which Europa they mean, we don't quite know! Now, MORE SW news!

:: Radio 49: have a new mailing address - 70 Copenhagen Rd, Gillingham, Kent.

:: Unidentified: heard on 7823kHz on February 13. Definately Dutch pirate, announcing Dedemsvaart address, but who?

:: Riverside Radio: a new station to go out on SW soon, possibly using SPECTRUM address, but nothing definite. Name may be changed.

:: Radio Northern Hemisphere: will be back soon with a programme of Eskimo music!

Thanks this month to all those who gave the AIRSOUNDS ed a few sleepless nights:- Podney, Roger, Peter, Phil, Dave, Shaun, Dave, Kevin, Scott, Jock, Idris, Phil, Mark, Paul, John, Alan, Dave, Jack, Joanne, Mike, Ian, Mannfred, Graham, and all others whose names have been passed on to Telecom...

ASN 3 will be out mid-March, so tell all your friends, and get them as crazy as you, me, and JM. And now, turn it sideways, and you get... SPECTRUM.

SPECTRUM MW & FM NEWS

EDITOR: Steve West

SUB-EDITOR: Chris Colby

32 Victoria Rd, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3NG

&

FRS, P.O.Box 123, Reading, Berks

From a deep hole somewhere in Salisbury

First of all, an apology: due to circumstances beyond my control, this mag has been delayed by about a week, this being mainly due to my spending the weekend of the 15th (no, I am not superstitious, touch wood) digging my car and a tractor out of a very sticky part of the New Forest: a further explanation will follow later space permitting.

Secondly, what did we do right? Such was the demand for issue 1 that we are now into our third reprint and even I haven't received my copy! (Stuart Hardy please note). Still, I hope that all of you who received your copy late thought that it was worth it: I have already received a large number of answers to the competition, a few of which were printable! and for those who have ordered the themes cassette, these will be sent on as soon as possible (again, demand outstrips supply).

Due to a general clearing-out of my filing system, and the discovery of large amounts of free radio stuff, I am planning to run a potted history of free radio in the UK. Therefore any material that you have on stations, frequencies, times, histories, memorable events etc would be most appreciated.

This month's effort: FM News, MW News, Feedback, Irish Update, more useless blurb from myself, bits and pieces etc etc. We have held the Top 10 MW and FM station poll until next month due to late issues when hopefully, things will be back to normal. In addition, we are running a series of articles on the more technical aspects of free radio, including diagrams and details, well worth reading!

Finally, for those of you who hate long addresses, an easier way of writing the Spectrum one: 32 SP1 3NG, Salisbury, Wilts, or even just 32 SP1 3NG, Wilts, will get to me, so with all the ink saved, how about some more info?--?

FM NEWS

FM News begins with the revelation that the new FM band recently opened up (102-104MHz) is about to be used. Already in London there are at least four stations using the band with considerable success since there are no other stations to cause interference, and despite being out of the way a bit, stations have found that listeners will still tune in once the word has got around. In the meantime, the BBC are planning to open the first legal station on the band: the North Hessary Tor relay of Radio Devon (don't the beeb think of imaginative names?) is due on air within the next few months on 105.9MHz, so prospective pirates should reserve frequencies before they're all taken!

In London, Our Radio has reappeared following six weeks of silence (2/2/85). Their first broadcast was marked with spurious emissions every two MHz from their 105.8MHz broadcast frequency.

Radio Alpha are still off the air since their raid just after Christmas. Since then, they have lost a number of sites and have stated that they will return at a later date.

Thameside Radio may be stopping their weekday broadcasts between 2200 and 2300, although the reasons for this move are not clear.

Forestside Radio, raided nine months ago, should be back soon on 90.2MHz each Friday soon. Also on 90.2, Alices Restaurant/Phoenix Radio made a trial broadcast in stereo with 40W on 4/2/85. More stereo transmissions are planned when the station increases power, on the subject of which, LMR has increased power to about 250W (500W ERP).

Radio Suburbia have moved up to 91.9MHz due to the proximity of Alices Restaurant on their original frequency of 90.2.

Radio Telstar South have returned/increased power on 92.8MHz Sundays, although broadcast times have been shortened to 1900-2000.

Radio City Gravesend and JFM both went off air on 15/2, possibly due to H/O raids.

Horizon FM are now broadcasting through Wednesday night until about 1000 Thursday, giving out travel news during the morning shows.

FM News (cont.)

Radio Invicta have been off the air since Christmas due to the moving of their studio to north London. In the meantime, Steve Walsh and Jim Colpin have left the station to join JFM, Invicta's rivals, who, according to sources, have something lined-up for the near future, possibly a link with Radio Jackie (see MW News).

Civic Radio can be heard on 92.5MHz each Tuesday. o/e Poyninga, Waterhouse Lane Kingswood, Surrey will get them. Incidentally, Parkside Radio and South West Radio are not the same station, although DJs from one have appeared on the other. SWR(!) is the former Radio 25 that used to broadcast back in 1981. o/e Spectrum for any info. Parkside closed down about the end of January and have since sold their tx equipment to a proposed station called Rooftop Radio, which will be operating on 89.9MHz.

The North Hillingdon Radio crew are planning to return to the air under a new name, more info when we hear it.

Surrey Sounds made a broadcast on 5/2 from 1200-1650 in stereo. The power was 100W, although this is to be increased in the future. The station has info sheets, stickers, badges, QSL cards etc available from Spectrum. No SAE is required. Broadcasts are every first Sunday of the month.

Hillside Radio in Crewe have changed their name to Free Radio Service Cheshire, and can be heard Wednesday and Friday nights on 90MHz. Andromeda Radio in Manchester is still on 88MHz Weds from 2050 and are hoping to have some SW relays in the near future. Another Manchester station - Manchester Alternative Radio - managed an interview with porno model Zena Whitehouse over Christmas. This station can be heard Fridays and Saturdays live from 2100-2200 on 104MHz, with requests being taken on CB channel 37FM.

An undid station has been heard testing on 88.6MHz in Manchester in stereo with continuous funk music and good signal strength. This is thought to be the annual Radio Rag from Manchester University (see article).

Sounds Alternative have ceased their 94.2MHz FM service. They plan to resume their Sunday afternoon broadcasts on 255m soon. Also off air at the moment is Radio Star due to money problems.

UK Radio and Phoenix Radio (Wellington) ran a joint New Years Day broadcast on 94.4MHz closing down at 2000.

Electronic Sound Transmission closed down on 31/12/82 at 0200 after a considerable Christmas broadcast. According to the manager, EST are taking a break from the air for 'operational reasons': during 1982 they were raided twice, losing a large amount of equipment, and for four weeks towards the end of the year were tracked by British Telecom, with the result that they now know many of the sites used. It is hoped that the station will return after the reorganisation but in the meantime Box 945, 190 Monument Rd, Edgbaston, Birmingham 16 will get them.

South Bank Radio (London) have not been heard for some time. Any answers? Chingford Radio heard on 106MHz (London, NE). Radio Galaxy have been heard testing Sunday mornings on 90.2MHz to NE London and Essex. They expect to begin regular broadcasts in July.

A letter from Brian Tuohy has pointed out that Merseyside Free Radio's FM broadcasts are so strong that they splatter over other nearby legal stations and the adjacent police band, despite which they have had no H/O trouble. I would be interested to hear more about this from other readers, though one explanation could be that the receiver used to listen on was poor at separating adjacent stations. Alternatively, he could be so near their tx site that the signal overloads the receiver. Reception reports for the 98MHz broadcasts have been received from as far away as the Isle of Man and north Wales.

In Belgium, Radios Zeven and Annick were raided on 15/1, but Zeven returned the next day. The legalisation of the free radio stations has been delayed: this is due to the need to process the 700 applications for the 150 licences on offer.

In Holland, Radio Veronica says that there are about 4000 pirate stations in the country (as opposed to the 100,000 originally thought to exist). On 9/1, Rund Hendriox (Rob Hudson) on Ver-Hil 2 had a link-up with the Amsterdam disco station Radio Decibel on 96.2MHz.

Radio Suburbia in London have closed due to the departure of Jerry Sinclair.

Radio Earwig in North Wilts has shut down temporarily due to tx problems. They are hoping to return with regular broadcasts sometime in March.

MW NEWS

Radio Jackie have begun broadcasting 24 hours each day to SW London on 227m using 250W input/150W output into a tuned Zepp aerial located 2½m above roof level. On 18/1, Brian Holder turned up at the tx site with a warrant signed by Eric Gotts. On being shown the tx, he was told that he could not take it without a court order, at which point he checked the rig and left. The court order, it seems, will take about 2-3 months to obtain: plenty of time for more equipment to be obtained and for the old equipment to 'disappear'. Since there is some uncertainty as to the exact regulations dealing with this, we hope to feature an article on the laws regarding free radio which will be run within the next few months.

Skyline Radio (Romford, Essex) has begun transmissions on 196m with a good signal into east London. The station is thought to be run by the former ABC crew.

Radio Comsat are back, broadcasting each Sunday 1200-1500 on 217m/1586kHz. 6 Park Avenue, Woodford Green, Essex will get them. Also back on air are Radio 255: despite various reports, the station was only off during the Christmas weeks and can now be heard playing 50s and 60s music from 1200-1500 Sundays with DJs Simon James and Brian Jenkins on 255m. It is planned to start Saturday broadcasts soon and possibly weekdays. 181 Blithdale Rd, Abbey Wood, London SE2.

County Radio (London) have closed down with the staff joining Radio Jackie. However there is a possibility that they may return once again, although just when we don't know. Radio City may have been testing on 6/2: rock and roll music was heard on their frequency with a weak signal. The station closed due to lack of enthusiasm from staff and listeners.

What's happened to MW free radio in Nottingham and Leicester? According to Mark, during a recent visit to the two places there was nothing to be heard on MW. Can anybody help him out?

Station M announced that they had most of their audio equipment stolen in a break-in, keeping them off-air for one weekend in January. Fortunately their tx was untouched.

Radio Debra/SCR are planning a comeback in the near future, operating a weekday afternoon schedule as before. Frequency should be 216m

One station deserving a mention is Radio Amanda, who we featured back in issue 9 of A&S and who have been keeping me up to date with various cuttings from their local paper. They broadcast on 214m/1404kHz Sundays 1200-1500, one channel up from Comsat. Copies of the articles should be obtained by writing to the station's address at 46 Morley Avenue, Wood Green, London N22 6NG, enclosing an SAE.

While I can remember it, there are a few meetings/conferences coming up that might be of interest to the more seriously-minded listener or operator: On April 9/10/11, there is a community radio conference in Sheffield. Most of the agenda will be to do with community radio, but I understand that part of the meeting on the 9th will be given over to free radio. Further info may be obtained from Joan Munro at Relay Mag. On April 30th, the Caroline Movement are holding their Free Radio Convention 1985 at the Courtney Hotel, London E12. The cost to non-members is £8 (members £7) and it is hoped to hold a free radio football match the next day. Further info from the movement at BCM-BRFM, London WC1N 3XX enclosing an SAE. As far as we know, these are the only events before July, however, if you know differently.....

FEEDBACK

Feedback this month starts 1985 with a pile of comments praising issue 1, so to satisfy the ego of a certain editor, the better remarks are printed below:-

"May I say well done on the very high quality of Airspec News (and I'm not grovelling for first prize in the caption competition). It really was very good and interesting. Lets hope the number of pages and high printing quality and news reporting and features stay that high in future." Chris Ridley. What can I say? S.W.

"What a pleasant surprise it was tonight to find a copy of Airspec News had come through the post to me. I'm a little surprised at the dateline of the mag as it had been posted on January 29th and I wonder if my copy had been delayed.....my entry for your competition will probably get an 'X' rating at the pictures." Nicholas Sharpe. Once again, apologies for the delay, but we are just getting into the swing of things. S.W.

Feedback (cont.)

"Received my copy of ASN this morning and thoroughly enjoyed it". Colin Grogan.
 "I've just read the first edition of Airspec News and I think it's a great mag."
 Brian Tuohy.

"Thanks for an interesting ASN1. I know who took that pic of Brian Copey in his birthday suit. I've also been told many anecdotes of encounters with Busby, such as when Brian was almost killed by touching an undischarged inventor." Roger Phillips.
 "May I congratulate Steve on yet another masterpiece in ASN1. By far the best yet. I only hope Stuart doesn't send it downhill too much." Phil Abbot.
 "Congratulations on another Spectrum extravaganza in ASN1. Even the bit before your magazine was OK!" Andrew Stimpson.
 "??!?!?" Stuart Hardy.

What more can we say? Anyway, for new readers this column will -hopefully- be appearing each month in ASN. Unlike the above comments, we are trying to start a column where readers can write in with various points to raise about free radio subjects. We would prefer all the comments to be serious: madness and lunacy will not be tolerated (but will still be printed). Therefore we are asking you to write in with your ideas on the following subjects: Has free radio improved, or is it worse than ever? How has the emphasis of free radio changed? Legalisation??? What are your pet likes/dislikes about free radio?. From your replies, we will be able to find out just what the average f.r listener expects from a station and what he would like to see in the mag etc etc. One criticism that we have had is over the photos: why not print pics of stations, txs, etc? The answer is that we hope to in forthcoming issues, but firstly we have to get hold of good quality black and white photos which we haven't got at the moment. However something should appear next issue. Meanwhile, any shots of studios etc would be most welcome.

FEATURE: RADIO RAG

Amongst the usual pile of stuff that makes up the average Spectrum postbag was a letter from Duncan in Manchester. In this he gave a history of Radio Rag, the annual station run by Manchester students which must be one of the oldest continuously-running free radio stations in the UK.

Well, by continuous we mean on every year at the same time: Radio Rag is a Rag Week station run by the students at Manchester University for three weekends of the year around this time in aid of charity.

Radio Rag began, it is thought, back in 1968 on 225m/1551kHz. Since then it has broadcast every year without fail except for 1976 when it closed due to lack of interest. In 1980, an FM service was introduced in mono in addition to the MW service. In 1981, the FM service (on 94.5MHz with 40W) went out in stereo for the first time, and last year used 88.6MHz with 60W. MW power during this time was 100W.

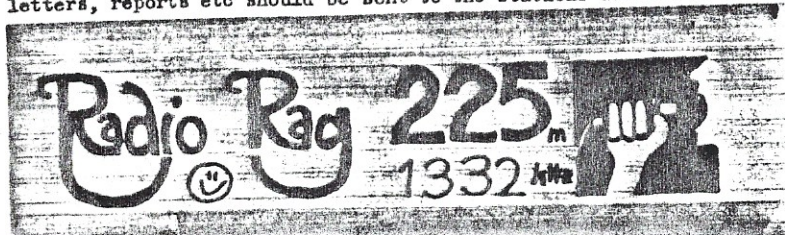
This year the station proposes to go out on 225m, 90.2MHz FM mono with 60W, 102.6MHz FM stereo with 100W (into a 4-element beam antenna) and 622.5kHz with 500W. Transmission times should be 0900-1400 on 19/2 and 20/2 and 2100-0900 on 25/2.

During the last night of the station, the students hold the 'Bogle Stroll': a 55-mile walk to Chorley and back, and an O.B unit is set up with a link back to the studio for interviews etc during the first half of the walk: should prove interesting. MW and FM range is claimed to be about 10 miles on the average tranny, although this is a rather conservative estimate. No problems have been experienced with the local H/O yet -probably due to the short broadcast times- and the station format has been described as 'pretty good': Pop, Chart Music, Jingles, and Rag Week adverts.

Any letters, reports etc should be sent to the stations address at P.O.Box 88.

Radio Rag

225m/1332 KHz/97.5 VHF
 Weekends 10pm - 2am
 P.O. Box 88, Manchester



Masses of news for this month's Irish Update?

Radio Amór is replacing Midland Community Radio: the station already has a strong signal on 263m and announces 105.5MHz FM. Address: St Mary's Tower, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

The KELO mentioned last month is not the same as the old KELO station: it is a completely new set-up with no connections with the old one, and there is news that it may be changing its location. Radio Snowflake is to close: sorry, it closed on 4/1. The op was Alan Wort who also operates Radio Sandayford. Treble T now has an FM outlet in stereo 96.7MHz, and Westside Radio (no connection with the SW station) has also returned to the air.

On 25/1, Robbie Dale and Sunshine did a five-minute link-up with Rund Hendrix on Ver-Hil 2 about the Irish radio situation. Robbie has also promised to improve the MW signal of the station now that he has got his FM service sorted out. Following the departure of Tom Hardy and John Lewis to KISS-FM, the only offshore personalities left on Sunshine are Robbie and Peter Madison, the remainder of the staff being Irish.

Radio West in Mullingar have bought the old 848kHz tx from Chris Cary and now put a good signal into parts of the UK. Probably the main reason for Chris' selling the tx is the fact that it uses about £750 of electricity per week!

Eastside Radio in Cork have gone it alone following Nova's attempt to buy them out. They have now moved into the city and have bought a 10kW tx, broadcasting in direct competition to South Coast Radio which is still the number one station. DJs on the station include Stuart Scott (thought to be a certain person from WMR), Graham Paul (ex-Leicester Free Radio Info Service) and Steve Marshall (ex-VOP).

Daffy Don Allan has introduced some offshore flavour to his show on Royal County Radio in Navan: he is running the 'Royal County Cash Casino, similar to the same show on Caroline back in the sixties. Since the station started back in late 1982, they seem to have done very well indeed, judging from the number of adverts.

We haven't heard much more about the Irish government's threat to outlaw the stations: is this still around or has it been shelved for the time being?

Thanks to Barrie and co for the station lists and addresses: we may get around to printing a few but due to lack of space etc etc etc.....

INTERESTING BITS

Roger Phillips comes to the rescue again to help fill these gaping voids (well, I didn't have a couple of diagrams done in time). Does anybody know about the new Italian TV network Rete A recently listed in 'Oggi'?

Those of you with good memories may be able to remember back to last year when we ran a feature on Parisian and French stations in A&S. Now we have another listing of Paris stations:-

Radio Notre Dame: Christian station on 88.1MHz

Radio Digitale: General music and info station on 88.45MHz

Radio Nova/Ivry: Minorities station. 88.8MHz.

Radio Libertaire: Open access-type station, similar to Our Radio in London. 89.5MHz

Radio Solidarité: Liberal opposition station. 89.8MHz

Fréquence Gaie: Gay station. 90MHz

Radio Montmartre: Latin-American music station. 90.7MHz

Gilda La Radiopolitaine: Jazz, Rock and classical music station. 91MHz

Oblique FM: Jazz and classical station. 91.4MHz

Radio J: Jewish station on 91.7MHz

Radio 20/20: Local radio for the 20th Arrondissement. 91.75MHz

NRJ: National Radio des Jeunes: Disco station on 92MHz

Boulevard Du Rock: Rock station. 92.6MHz

Radio Shalom: Jewish station. 93.75MHz

Radio Stax: General music station. 94MHz

Radio Communauté Juive: Jewish station. 94.5MHz

Active FM: British and American music station. 94.6MHz

Carol FM: 94.8MHz

Fréquence Montmartre: North Parisian local station. 95.1MHz

Radio La Péniche: Young people's catholic station on 95.25MHz

Radio Afrique: African station. 95.7MHz

Interesting Bits (cont.)

Cité 96: Funk and french rock station owned by Le Monde newspaper. 96MHz

Amplitude FFL: Student station. 96.6MHz

Paris FM: 96.9MHz

Carbone 14: Open access station. Became notorious last year after it broadcast live sex shows. See article. 97.2MHz

Radio Soleil Ménilmontant: African. 98.2

Radio Ici Et Maintenant: Music and magazine format station. 99.45MHz

Radio Ask: 100MHz

RPM: Most popular free station in Paris.

100.5MHz

Radio Express: Owned by L'Express mag.

100.85MHz

Radio Tour Eiffel: Jacques Chirac's station

Classical music and local info. 101.5MHz

Radio Paris: 102.1MHz

Radio Méditerranée: Oriental and arab music station. 103MHz

Judaïques FM: Yet another jewish one.

105.35MHz

Radio Megalo: 105.5MHz

Canal 89: Variety and cultural station.

104MHz

Radio Univers: African station. 104.1MHz

Radio Bocal: French music station. 104.7

Radio Alligre: Local radio for the 12th arrondissement. 104.8MHz

Radio Latina: Latin-American music. 105.2

Radio 15: Religious christian station.

UK and US music. 105.5MHz

La Voix Du Cedre: Lebanese station. 105.8

Antenne Piliplilli: African station. 106

Radio Odyssée Arts Et Spectacles: 106.2

Digital FM: 106.5MHz

Radio Show: 106.5MHz

Radio Beur: 107.5MHz.

And after that lot, some news: mergers seem to be the order of the day:- the two Latin-American stations R.Montmartre and Latina are merging as are all the jewish stations which will become Radio J. Oblique FM, Boulevard Du Rock, Carol FM and Radio Megalo are also merging with each other.

Just in case any of you are still at a loss for answers to last month's competition, here are a few of the entries we have received: please note that the following is not to be read by children under 50!

"And now for my next trick, with nothing up my sleeve....."

"Everything will be taken down and used in evidence against you."

"Yes, my dear, I really am a radio transmitter. Now let go of my output valve otherwise you'll get a nasty shock!"

"I've never operated a studio like this before!"

Man: "Let me introduce myself. I'm Brian Copsey of the Home Office Radio Division working undercover, and I have reason to believe that you are hiding a radio transmitter within this bedsit, so I have no option but to strip it and make sure that you're not hiding anything else!"

Woman: "Well now, you've stripped the room down and myself at the same time. Are you completely satisfied with what you have seen or do you want to do it again?"

Man: "No, that won't be necessary. I'll just make out a short report and take down some bare details."

There you are, anything along those lines will be accepted. Less complimentary answers are now available in a special plain-cover edition of ASN price £10.

Strangers turned on by radio sex

Paris: In one of the more provocative consequences of France's decision to tolerate privately-run radio stations, a programme has broadcast an encounter between two strangers who made love on the air while a group of journalists watched.

The Socialist-leaning daily Le Matin, published a photograph of reporters interviewing the nude couple at an apres-ski conference.

The sexual encounter between the young man and woman was broadcast in Love at First Sight live on Sunday in the studio of the Radio Station Carbone 14.

A mattress was placed on the studio's floor next to a microphone that captured the conversation of the couple. A commentator was stationed nearby to provide a graphic, running description of the scene and its participants.

It was the second such sexual encounter broadcast by Carbone 14, one of several dozen independent radio

stations that have surfaced since the Socialist administration decided to end the Government's monopoly of the air waves last year.

Some French newspapers suggested that the first encounter might have been faked, noting that Carbone 14 previously broadcast trumped-up dramas such as the suicide of a young woman. But the station management insisted that the first encounter was real and invited journalists to attend a similar performance about a dozen journalists accepted the invitation.

Le Matin's reporter at the scene wrote that the journalists were put in a room adjoining the studio and were able to see the event through a glass window.

Inside the studio was a 23-year-old woman identified only as Christel, who said she was an office worker. Her partner, whom she allegedly met for the first time that night, was a 19-year-old unemployed man named Denis, described as an amateur weight-lifter.

Apologies for the grotty copy but it's all I could find. S.W.



Just as an interesting item before we stop printing all these photos: This is what you can expect to see during a raid. Please note the absence of detector vans: most raids, surprisingly enough, do not use them since there are only about 90 in the UK, and most are used for tracking down CBers. The average FM station in -say- London can expect to be tracked down by a group of three or four GPO using portable radios and with police back-up. With the large cities, sites are usually obvious in the form of tower blocks and once a knowledge of good sites has been gained, it is easy to track down a station using no more than a radio with tuning meter and perhaps a frequency counter for close discrimination. So there you are, it's not that complicated after all!

Next month, we'll be starting some photos of stations and equipment, therefore we would like as many pics, preferably black and white, of studios, aerials, rigs etc. Don't bother with an SAE, the purse can stretch to return postage!.

AND FINALLY

And finally, one or two bits of news that I have just found propping up the bed:-
County Radio goes out on 94.4MHz to the Black Country and parts of Birmingham from 18/1900-2400 with a Top 50/Album format. Also on 94.4MHz is Wulfrum Sound every three weeks to Wolverhampton from 1400 with Mike Johns (WEPR SW) Top 50 Show.

Sounds Alternative cut short their 1100-1200 broadcast on 2/1 due to H/O attempts at tracking them. A further 2 hours went out between 1500 and 1700. The tx power is 80W into a long wire giving a better signal than BRMB in most areas.

Radio Benelux can be heard on 101MHz in German to the Aachen and Eschweiler areas near the Germany-Belgium border. The site is at a village near Eupen.

Another answer to the caption competition: Man to woman: "Are you sure this is how you join the Stuart Hardy Fan Club?" Comments on a postcard please to the usual QTH.

Wot's this???? World Music Radio surfaces once again, at least according to a sheet that dropped through the door this morning. Following the loss of their broadcast facilities in Andorra back in 1981, they were dormant until mid-1982 when they launched a joint station from Milan with the local station there Radio Milano International. As a result, they are now preparing to begin broadcasts on MW, and SW on 49, 25 and 16m. No doubt you probably know about this already but due to not having received the first issue of ASN I don't know if Stuart has already mentioned it or not. (Hint, hint).

While I can still remember them, thanks to Roger Phillips, Kevin Lewis, Laurence, (or is it Lawrence?), Ken, Malcolm, Chas and Dave, (honest!), Robert, Ian, Phil C, John Burch, Dave Cooper, Duncan, Andrew, Jeremy H, R.F(!), Brian Tuohy, Barrie, Barry, Bob, Chris, Nicholas Sharpe, Jerry (for pulling me out last week), Mike, John, and all who I have inevitably forgotten as usual.

Next month we start the first of our articles on the more practical side of free radio with a look at the technicalities of SW broadcasting, including details of typical rigs, aerials and studio layouts. During the following months we will also be covering FM and MW. Also next month: Competition winners, usual news etc.

FOR SALE: Station themes. A C60 cassette containing a selection of themes used by

Cheques some of the more well-known stations. Price £1.50 including postage.
blank ~~2MC, cheques etc to be made out to Stuart Hardy.~~ NB: Due to the demand,
please some people may find delays in their order. Don't worry, we'll get there in the end.

WANTED: Second-hand (but working!) SW tx fairly cheapish. Also FM mono rig, fairly cheapish. Will swap for 20W MW tx plus PSU. Chris Ridley, c/o Box RA, Spectrum.

RADIO RAG**MRBS****PRODUCTION**

Manchester Rag Broadcasting System

225m Medium Wave 1331 kc/s

Radio 3

Radio Rag

Radio Lux

--	--	--

247m 1214 kc/s

225m 1331kc/s

208m 1439 kc/s

AIRSOUNDS EXTRA

Radio Kosmos - no room on front to mention their raid!
Re. SW's comments above - WMR was mentioned about 4 months ago in A & S!
Jock Wilson (Stella) visited by GPO to check his "phone lines" (sic).

Picture captions:
"What do you mean you left the search warrant in the car????!!!"
"The sooner Nudist Colony Radio 101 goes off, the better!"

10pm to approximately 2am**2200 GMT - 0200 GMT**